United Nations S/PV.5320

Security Council

Sixtieth year

Provisional

5320th meeting

Monday, 12 December 2005, 5.05 p.m.

New York

President	Sir Emyr Jones Parry	(United Kingdom)
Members	Algeria	Mr. Baali
	Argentina	Mr. Mayoral
	Benin	Mr. Idohou
	Brazil	Mr. Tarrisse da Fontoura
	China	Mr. Zhang Yishan
	Denmark	Mr. Faaborg-Andersen
	France	Mr. De La Sabliere
	Greece	Mr. Vassilakis
	Japan	Mr. Haneda
	Philippines	Mr. Cato
	Romania	Mr. Motoc
	Russian Federation	Mr. Denisov
	United Republic of Tanzania	Mrs. Taj
	United States of America	Mr. Bolton

Agenda

The situation in the Middle East

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A.

05-63728 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 5.05 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Middle East

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Lebanon in which he requests to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Assaf (Lebanon) took a seat at the Council table.

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

After consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the 12 December terrorist bombing in the suburbs of Beirut that killed Lebanese member of Parliament, editor and journalist Gebrane Tueni, a patriot who was an outspoken symbol of freedom and the sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon, as well as three others. It expresses its deepest sympathy to the families of those killed and injured.

"The Security Council reiterates its deepest concern about the destabilizing impact of political assassinations and other terrorist acts in Lebanon. It reiterates also its warning that the sponsors of today's and previous terrorist attacks against political leaders and leading members of civil society in Lebanon, whose obvious aim is to undermine Lebanon's security, stability, sovereignty, national unity, political independence and press freedom, will not be permitted to succeed and will finally be held accountable for their crimes.

"The Security Council welcomes the determination and commitment of the Government of Lebanon to bring to justice all those responsible for this assassination and others before, and expresses its readiness to consider positively any request for assistance in this regard from the Lebanese Government.

"The Security Council reaffirms its resolution 1559 (2004), and reiterates once again its call for the strict respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon. The Security Council urges all States, in accordance with its resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1566 (2004), to cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2005/61.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.